Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty

What is the Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty?

The Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty, called "MGIB" for short, provides up to 36 months of education benefits to eligible veterans for:

- ♦ College, Business, Technical or Vocational School
- ♦ Correspondence Courses

♦ Apprenticeship/Job Training

- ♦ Flight Training (in some cases)
- ♦ Remedial, Deficiency, and Refresher Training (in some cases)

Note: Programs must be approved for VA training.

Who is Eligible?

If you are in service, you may be eligible after 2 years of active duty. Please consult with the Education Services Officer at your installation, or call the toll-free number below, for information about your eligibility.

If you are separated from service, you may be an eligible veteran if you:

- Entered active duty for the first time after June 30, 1985;
- Got a high school diploma or equivalent (or, in some cases, 12 hours of college credit) before the end of your first obligated period of service. (If you were on active duty on August 2, 1990, you may be eligible if you received your high school diploma or equivalent before October 28, 1994. You may *not* use 12 hours of college credit to meet this requirement.);
 - Got an honorable discharge from your first obligated period of service;
- Continuously served for 3 years , *OR* 2 years if that is what you first enlisted for, *OR* 2 years if you have an obligation to serve four years in the Selected Reserve *AND* entered Selective Reserve within a year of leaving active duty.

Note: Different rules apply if you entered active duty before July 1, 1985, and in certain other cases. Call our toll-free number below for more information.

Are There Any Pitfalls?

You should be aware that the following pitfalls could cause you to lose all MGIB benefits:

Honorable discharge. You must have an honorable discharge. A "general" or "under honorable condition" is not qualifying.

Early discharge. To be eligible with an early discharge, your separation reason must meet certain requirements. Call our toll-free number below (or check with your Education Services Officer if you're on active duty) for more information.

How Much Does VA Pay?

The monthly benefit paid to you is based on the type of training you take, length of your service, your category, and if DOD put extra money in your *MGIB* Fund (called "kickers"). You usually have 10 years to use your *MGIB* benefits, but the time limit can be less, in some cases, and longer under certain circumstances.

How Can I Apply?

You can apply by filling out VA Form 22-1990, Application for Education Benefits. You can also apply on line through our website at http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp.

For More Information Call Toll-Free at 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) or Visit Our Web Site www.gibill.va.gov